

House Resolution 434

By: Representative Oliver of the 83<sup>rd</sup>

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Welcoming and commending the visiting Ukranian delegation and expressing appreciation  
2 to Friendship Force International for its local support of this exchange program; and for other  
3 purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the citizens of Ukraine acted courageously during their recent elections and the  
5 "Orange Revolution" which followed, demanding that their government restore integrity to  
6 the country's electoral process; and

7 WHEREAS, the people of the United States stand with the Ukrainian people in their defense  
8 of democracy and the free and open elections that are its foundation; and

9 WHEREAS, in participation with a professional exchange through the Open World Program,  
10 a delegation of Ukranian leaders, including judges, elections experts, NGO managers, and  
11 democracy advocates, are visiting the United States to observe American democracy in  
12 action in a variety of host communities and to share their ideas and experiences with their  
13 American counterparts regarding the rule of law, the role of an independent media, and the  
14 democratic electoral process; and

15 WHEREAS, this exchange enhances mutual understanding between Ukraine and the United  
16 States by building professional relationships and friendships between visiting delegates and  
17 their American contacts; and

18 WHEREAS, "Rule of Law," the theme of this year's exchange, is a most timely and pertinent  
19 topic of discussion, and in keeping with that theme, Ukranian leaders will receive a hands-on  
20 demonstration of the latest voting technology while visiting Atlanta, Georgia; and

21 WHEREAS, Friendship Force International is helping to oversee the local programs  
22 attended by this delegation; and

1 WHEREAS, it is highly fitting and proper that this body recognize the great importance of  
2 the relationship that exists between Ukraine and the United States and the unique opportunity  
3 this exchange program offers to strengthen the ties of these two great nations.

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
5 the members of this body join in commending the visiting Ukranian delegation for their  
6 outstanding and courageous efforts to protect democracy in their country, extend their most  
7 sincere welcome to those members of the delegation visiting the State of Georgia, and  
8 express their appreciation to Friendship Force International for their assistance with  
9 arranging the local activities for this delegation.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
11 and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the Ukranian delegation of  
12 the Open World Program professional exchange and Friendship Force International.